

1 **ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE**

2 A data network comprising a host system having a host-fabric adapter; at least one
3 remote system; a switch fabric which interconnects said host system via said host-fabric adapter
4 to said remote system along different physical links for data communications; and at least one
5 communication port provided in the host-fabric adapter of the host system including a set of
6 transmit and receive buffers capable of sending and receiving data packets concurrently via
7 respective transmitter and receiver at an end of a physical link, via the switched fabric, and a
8 flow control mechanism utilized to prevent loss of data due to receive buffer overflow at the end
9 of the physical link.